

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 01121 071145Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/061 W

-----003872 071308Z /43

R 071056Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5378
SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCLANT NORFOLK, VA
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN, GE
OJCS WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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SHAPE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, NO
SUBJECT: VISIT TO US OF NORWEGIAN MOD SECRETARY GENERAL CASPAR
STEPHANSEN

REF: (A) OSLO 1024, (B) OSLO 0968

1. MOD SECRETARY GENERAL CASPAR STEPHANSEN WILL ACCOMPANY
MINISTER OF DEFENSE HANSEN (SEE REFTTEL) ON HIS APRIL 20-25
VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. STEPHANSEN INDICATED RECENTLY
TO EMBASSY'S POL/MIL OFFICER THAT HE AND LT. COL. NAESS (HANSEN'S
MILITARY AIDE) WOULD BE TRAVELING TO WASHINGTON ON
APRIL 20 IN ADVANCE OF HANSEN. THEY PLAN TO REMAIN IN
WASHINGTON UNTIL THE DEFENSE MINISTER JOINS THEM SOME TIME
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ON THE 23RD. STEPHANSEN HAS ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE
POSSIBLE TO PROGRAM HIM AND NAESS SEPARATELY ON FRIDAY,
APRIL 21. HE NOTED THAT HE HAS BEEN TO THE US ONLY TWICE
IN THE LAST 30 YEARS, AND WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO
GET TO KNOW THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEFENSE AND FOREIGN
POLICY REPRESENTATIVES A LITTLE BETTER.

2. WE CONCUR ENTIRELY WITH STEPHANSEN'S DESIRE FOR AN APRIL 21 SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS AND WOULD RECOMMEND THAT HE SEE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

AT STATE:

DEP ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE AT STATE
PM DIRECTOR GELB
SPECIAL ASSISTANT SHULMAN
S/PC DIRECTOR LAKE

AT DEFENSE:

ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCGIFFORT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SIENNA
GENERAL GRAVES
GENERAL BOWMAN

3. STEPHANSEN, AS THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY, IS THE BACKBONE OF THE MINISTRY'S MANAGEMENT AND DEALS REGULARLY, ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS, WITH THE NUTS AND BOLTS ISSUES OF MILITARY IMPORTANCE TO THE ALLIANCE. HE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATIVE WITH THE EMBASSY OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS AND WOULD BE AN INTELLIGENT AND USEFUL RECIPIENT OF INFORMATION.

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4. HIS VISIT AS WELL AS, OF COURSE, MINISTER HANSEN'S, WOULD OFFER AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO DELIVER A FEW PERTINENT MESSAGES. DURING THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS, SENIOR-LEVEL GON OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CLEARLY PREPARING THE WAY FOR DECREASED DEFENSE SPENDING AS A RESULT OF THE DEPRESSED NORWEGIAN ECONOMY. WE THINK THAT STEPHANSEN SHOULD BE TOLD THAT WHILE WE SYMPATHIZE WITH NORWAY'S UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM, NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO WEAKEN ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND RESOLVE AS WE FACE A SUMMIT MEETING IN A FEW MONTHS WHICH IS INTENDED TO INAUGURATE A MAJOR PROGRAM AIMED AT IMPROVING NATO DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. HE SHOULD ALSO BE TOLD THAT WHILE SUMMIT AGREEMENT TO FURTHER STUDY THE RESULTS OF THE LONG-TERM INITIATIVES EFFORT MIGHT BE POLITICALLY PALATABLE, IT WOULD BE MILITARY UNWISE AND WOULD, IN EFFECT, RENDER THE WORK OF THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS A WASTE OF TIME.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: RESPONSE ASAP INDICATING WHETHER SCHEDULE ALONG LINES SKETCHED OUT IN PARAS 1 AND 2 IS POSSIBLE.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: OVIP, NO, US, (STEPHANSEN, CASPAR)
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